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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
SP-02 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 /086 W
----------270258Z 055920 /72
R 261220Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8602
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO
INFO: (BY POUCH)
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EEWT, ETRD, PFOR, HU
SUBJECT: GOH JUSTIFIES ITS GROWING ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH WEST

1. MAY ISSUE OF HSWP MONTHLY TARSADALMI SZEMLE CARRIES ARTICLE BY CENTRAL COMMITTEE SECRETARY IMRE GYORI CALLING FOR MORE EFFECTIVE PROPAGANDA TO DEVELOP "ECONOMIC CONSCIOUSNESS" OF HUNGARIAN POPULACE. GYORI, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR AGITPROP, IS PRIMARILY ADDRESSING DOMESTIC AUDIENCE, BUT QUOTING SELECTIVELY FROM ARTICLE IT IS INTERESTING EXTENT TO WHICH HE DEFENDS HUNGARY'S GROWING ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH WEST.

2. ADMITTING THAT IN RECENT YEARS CHANGES IN WORLD ECONOMIC
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SYSTEM HAVE CAUGHT HUNGARY BY SURPRISE, GYORI TAKES HUNGARIAN MEDIA TO TASK FOR CONTINUING TO CLAIM, IN MANY CASES, THAT HUNGARY IS STILL MORE OR LESS INSULATED FROM THESE "CAPITALIST CRISES". GYORI SAYS THAT ALTHOUGH HUNGARY'S "SOCIALIST SYSTEM" HAS ENABLED IT TO COPE WITH OUTSIDE ECONOMIC FORCES, PROPAGANDA ORGANS HAVE FAILED TO ENABLE PEOPLE TO ASSESS REALISTICALLY THE IMPACT OF THESE FORCES

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ON HUNGARY, AND HAVE NOT SUCCEEDED IN EXPLAINING SUCCESS-
FULLY WHY HUNGARY IS ACTIVELY PURSUING CERTAIN ECONOMIC
COALS IN THE CAPITALIST WORLD.

3. GYORI ADDS THAT QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN RAISED WITHIN THE
"SOCIALIST SYSTEM" AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THERE ARE IRRECON-
CILABLE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SIMULTANEOUSLY PROMOTING CEMA
INTEGRATION AND SEEKING CLOSER TIES WITH CAPITALIST
COUNTRIES. HE EXPECTEDLY ARGUES THAT THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE
TO CAPITALISM IS SOCIALISM AND THAT SOCIALISM IS PROGRESSING
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, ALTHOUGH THE PATHS TO SOCIALISM WILL
BE "MORE AND MORE VARIED". HE CONCLUDES THAT IN THE ECONOMIC
FIELD HUNGARY MUST TAKE ADVANTAGE OF DETENTE TO INCREASE
CONTACTS WITH ALL PARTIES.

4. COMMENT: IN LAST FEW MONTHS HUNGARY HAS TAKEN SERIES
OF STEPS TO IMPROVE ITS COMMERCIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH NON-
CEMA COUNTRIES, INCLUDING NEW REGULATIONS ON FOREIGN
PARTICIPATION IN THE HUNGARIAN ECONOMY AND STEPPED-UP
ACTIVITY IN THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE FIELD. THE EMBASSY
HAS NO NEW EVIDENCE THAT THE GOH IS CATCHING MORE FLAK
THAN USUAL FROM THE SOVIETS AND OTHERS BECAUSE OF THESE
ACTIVITIES. AS THE SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE
IN CHARGE OF AGITATION AND PROPAGANDA IT IS CERTAINLY
NOT UNUSUAL THAT GYORI SHOULD ATTEMPT TO GET HIS MESSAGE
ON HUNGARY'S ECONOMIC RELATIONS ACROSS IN TARSADALMI
SZEMLE, THE HSWP'S IDEOLOGICAL/POLITICAL JOURNAL. BUT
HIS RATHER EXTENSIVE JUSTIFICATION OF HUNGARY'S GROWING
ECONOMIC TIES WITH THE WEST AND HIS ASSERTION THAT
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QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN RAISED WITHIN THE "SOCIALIST SYSTEM"
AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THERE ARE IRRECONCILIABLE DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN SIMULTANEOUSLY PROMOTING CEMA INTEGRATION AND
SEEKING CLOSER ECONOMIC TIES WITH THE WEST ARE UNUSUAL
AND BEAR WATCHING. AT THIS POINT WE ARE NOT SURE
WHETHER GYORI IS SEEKING TO ACTIVATE THE PARTY'S AGIT-PROP
MECHANISM IN THE INTEREST OF HAVING A BETTER INFORMED
PARTY AND PUBLIC ON HUNGARY'S ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH
OTHER COUNTRIES, OR WHETHER HIS OBJECTIVE IS TO CULTIVATE
SUPPORT FOR THE PARTY'S POLICY AGAINST ITS "SOCIALIST
CRITICS," OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH.
MUDD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EAST WEST TRADE, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: EEWT, ETRD, PFOR, HU, (GYORI, IMRE)
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Type: TE
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